[Translation]

Food Adulteration Act

366. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the standard fixed under the Food Adulteration (Prevention) Act, 1955;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) The Standards fixed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 & Rules, 1955 are reviewed from time to time. Since 1955, 223 amendments relating to various provisions of the Rules and Standards under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 have so far been published.

[English]

Special Grant for SSNP

367. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to release Rs. 90 Crores special grant for Sardar Sarover Narmada Project;

(b) whether any conditions have been imposed on Gujarat Government for release of the grant; and

(c) if so, the details of the conditions and the reaction of the Gujarat Government ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Central loan assistance of Rs. 95 crores has been approved for Sardar Sarover Project in Gujarat under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during 1996-97. Out of this, Rs. 71.25 crores has already been released.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The next instalment of the Central Loan Assistance will be released only after the expenditure to the extent of double the amount of Central Loan Assistance already released has actually been incurred on the project. The Government of Gujarat has requested for more assistance.

[Translation]

Proposal for Height of Dam at SSP

368. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last three years the Government of Gujarat had sent any proposal to the Union Government regarding the height of the Dam at Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP);

(b) if so, the year-wise details of such proposals received during the said period till date;

(c) the number of proposal out of these, accepted/ rejected/under consideration or pending, year-wise till date;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which this proposal is expected to be accepted and the latest position thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) During the last three years, Government of Gujarat has been proposing to raise the effective height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam in the spillway portion upto EL 110 metres to derive interim benefits from the Project. However, further raising of the effective height of the dam from the present level of EL 81.5 metres in the spillway portion could not be done so far due to the constraints of corresponding progress of resettlement & rehabilitation measures of Project Affected Persons.

(e) The progress of further raising of the effective height of the dam from the present level of EL 81.5 metres in the spillway portion is linked with the *pari-passu* implementation of the resettlement & rehabilitation measures of Project Affected Persons. The concerned State Governments have been advised to complete resettlement & rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons on priority basis to expedite the construction of the project.

[English]

Green Coverage to NHs

369. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had a proposal to provide green coverage to the National Highways in the country;

(b) the time by which the greening of all the National Highways is planned to be completed;

(c) the funds earmarked for this programme during the Eighth Plan Period, year-wise; and

(d) the progress made so far in the compietion of the projects under this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d) Plantation of trees along National Highways is an accepted policy of the Government for the last several years and is a continuing activity depending upon the availability of land within the right-of-way where plantation can be done, adequacy of funds, etc.